ASAHI-CHAN!
SINCE OUR DEFEAT IN THE INTERHIGH PRELIMINARIES, IT HAS BEEN TWO WEEKS SINCE NOGAMI SENPAI BECAME CLUB LEADER.
SORRY, I'M COMING RIGHT NOW.
I'VE PRETTY MUCH GOTTEN USED TO PRACTICING AFTER SCHOOL.
HURRY, HURRY!
THE SENPAIS WILL BE THERE SOON.
YES, YES.
GET READY~

7本目 The Girl Who Can't Jump

カキン
コチン
AS WE GO TO THE CLUB ROOM TO GET THE KEY TO THE DOJO.
FIRST, WE DO THE NANBA WALK,

USING THE SAME SIDE ARM AND LEG TOGETHER IS A MOVEMENT USED IN NAGINATA.
IT'S HOW THE POSTMEN OF THE EDO PERIOD RAN.
NANBA WALK IS WHERE ONE WALKS PUTTING THE SAME ARM AND SAME LEG FORWARD AT THE SAME TIME WITHOUT TWISTING THE BODY.
OUR EXAGGERATED NANBA WALKING IS CREATING MUSCLE MEMORY AND IS ESSENTIAL IN NAGINATA TRAINING.
HEY, GREAT RUNNER

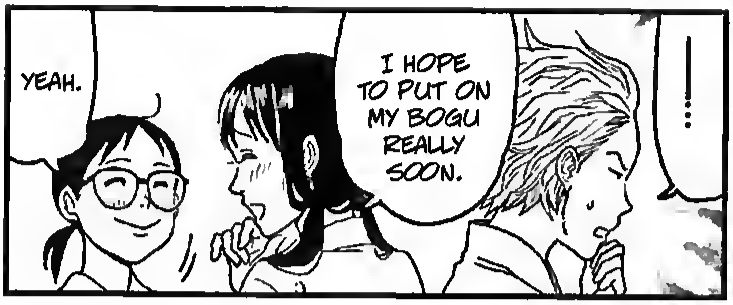
IT'S NOT LIKE THE SENPAI'S ARE MONITORING US. THEY DON'T NEED TO,
BECAUSE THE WHOLE SCHOOL IS WATCHING US. IF WE DIDN'T DO THE WALK, WORD WOULD SPREAD AND THE SENPAI'S WOULD KNOW.
THIS IS TOTALLY EMBARRASSING
IT'S NANBA.
GOOD LUCK WITH THE INABA WALK.
HEY, NAGINATA CLUB.

RIGHT NOW, PAPA AND I ARE THINKING ABOUT THE DESIGN FOR THE DOU PART.
I HAVEN'T, EITHER.
WHA- IT'LL BE CUSTOM MADE?
ONCE WE ARRIVE AT THE CLUB ROOM WE QUICKLY CHANGE INTO OUR HAKAMA.
ASAHI-CHAN, HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR BOGU?
NO, NOT YET.
WHAT ABOUT YOU SAKURA-CHAN?
PAPA WANTS IT ALL DONE JUST RIGHT. THE BEST OF EVERYTHING.
ALSO, READY MADE GOODS FEEL A BIT UNREFINED.

4

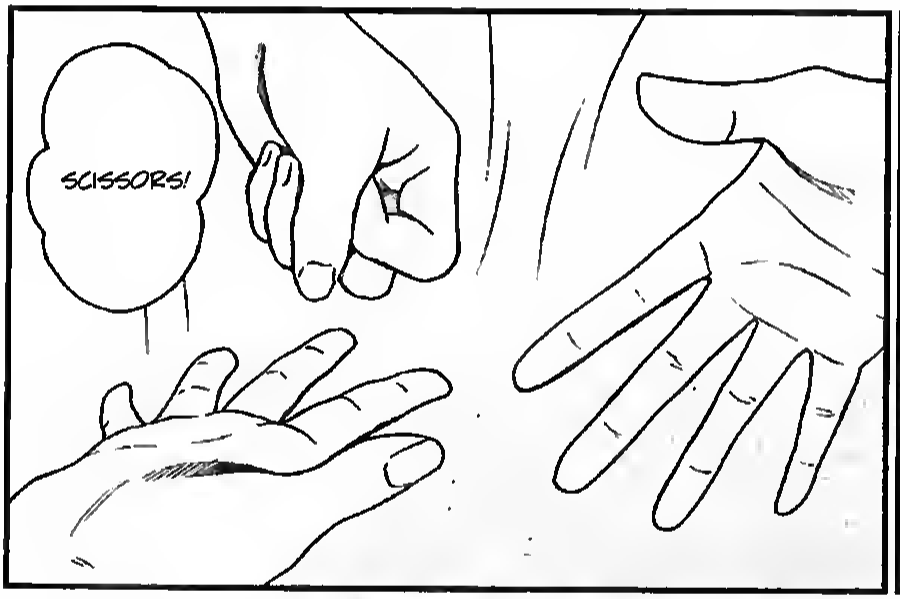
I HAVE MY SET FROM WHEN I DID KENDO.
THEY'RE THE SAME THING.
HAS SHOKO-CHAN ALREADY BOUGHT ONE?
DOES UNREFINED MEAN BAD?
RICH GIRL EH.

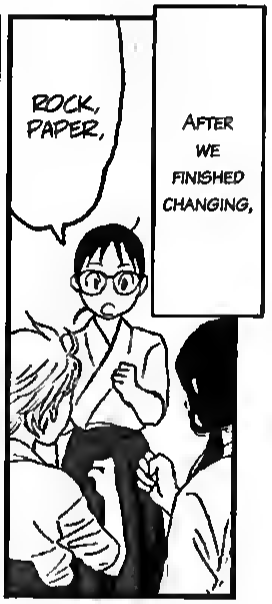
*T/L - Bogu is the word for the body armor used in naginata,Kendo and a few other martial arts. The dou is the stomach and chest protector.



REALLY?
HUH? BUT COMPARED TO KENDO, THE MENTARE IN NAGINATA IS A LITTLE SHORTER.
PEOPLE WHO SWITCH FROM KENDO TO NAGINATA ALWAYS CUT THEM SHORTER.

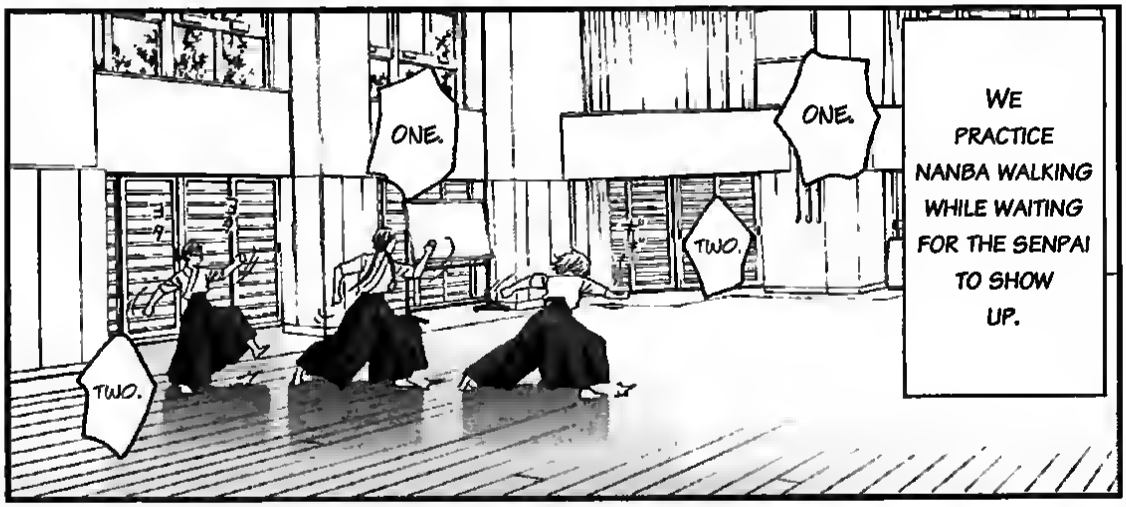
T/L The part of the men that looks like octopus tentacles

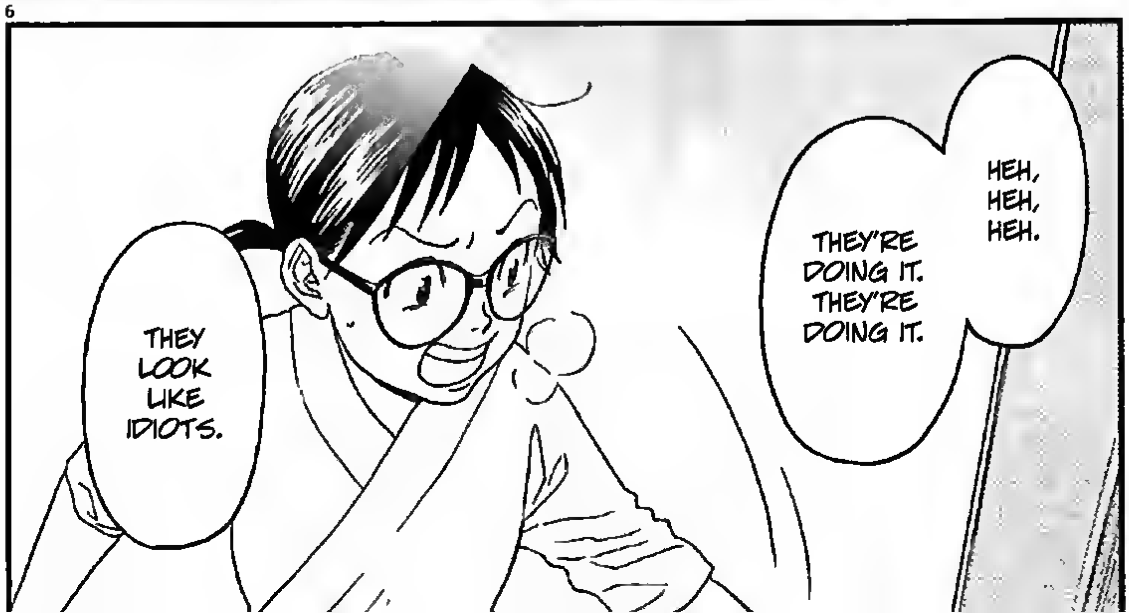




YEAH, HURRY IT UP.
URGH... W-WAIT...!!
COME ON ASAHI-CHAN WE NEED TO MAKE A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION.
WE PICK UP ALL THE SENPAI'S BOGU AND NAGINATA,
AND CARRY IT QUICKLY TO THE SECOND DOJO.

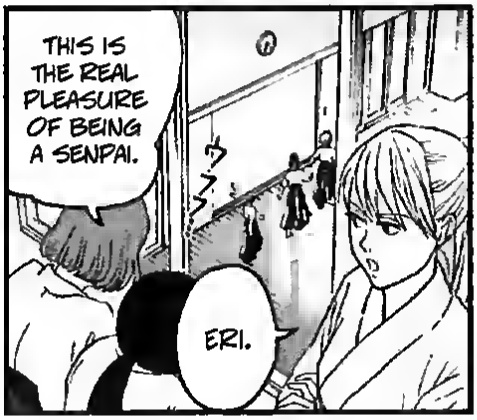
WE BOW BEFORE WE ENTER THE DOJO.
WE OPEN THE FULL LENGTH MIRRORS.
AFTER LINING UP THE BOGU PERFECTLY,


ONE.
ONE.
TWO.
TWO.
WE PRACTICE NANBA WALKING WHILE WAITING FOR THE SENPAI TO SHOW UP.

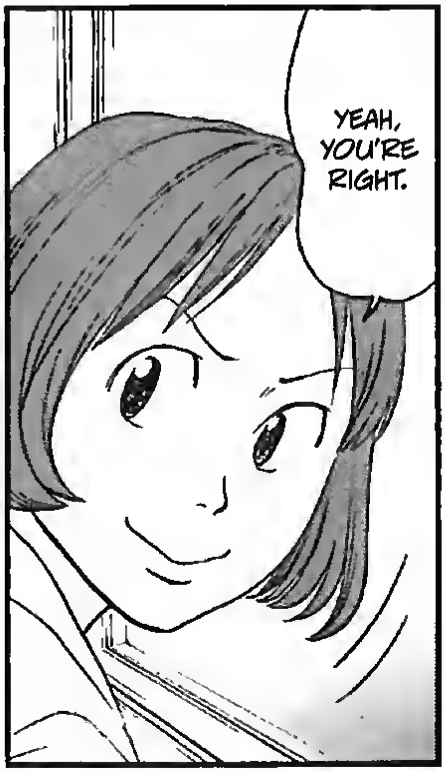

HEH, HEH, HEH.
THEY'RE DOING IT. THEY'RE DOING IT.
THEY LOOK LIKE IDIOTS.

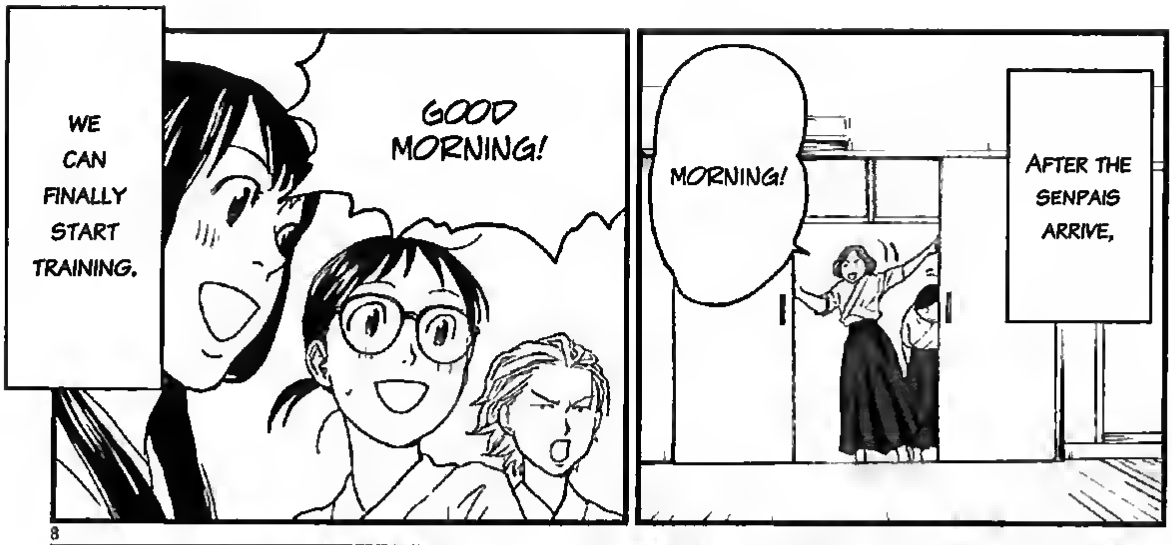
THIS IS REALLY WHAT I'VE BEEN WANT-ING TO SEE.
IT'S BEEN MY DREAM TO LOOK DOWN ON THE 1ST YEARS DOING NANBA FROM UP HERE.
WHAT A NICE VIEW!

IT'S ABOUT TIME.
LET'S GET ON WITH IT.


THIS IS THE REAL PLEASURE OF BEING A SENPAI.
ERI.

heh, heh,heh... They don't even know we were watching.
LET'S GO, FUMINO!
I DUNNO.
WHAT THE HELL? HAS THAT FATTY BEEN WATCHING THIS WHOLE TIME?


YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.

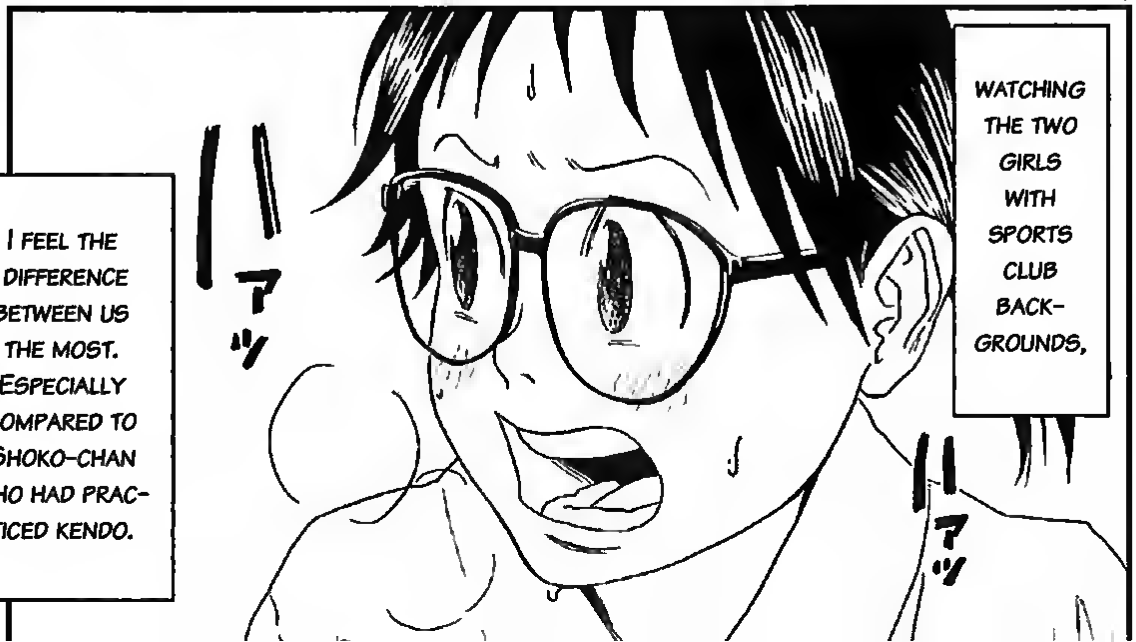

WE CAN FINALLY START TRAINING.
GOOD MORNING!
MORNING!
AFTER THE SENPAIS ARRIVE,

1、2、
3、4、
5
OW, OW, OW, OW, OW.
6
KONNO-SAN YOUR BODY IS SO FLEXIBLE.
I DID CLASSICAL BALLET WHEN I WAS LITTLE.
NEARLY HALF OF PRACTICE IS FITNESS TRAINING, SHORT DISTANCE RUNNING AND SIMPLE STRETCHING. SURPRISINGLY, THIS CAN BE QUITE TOUGH.

YEOW
THIS IS WHERE...

USUALLY, ON SATURDAYS, JUMPING ROPE IS ADDED TO THE EVERY DAY TRAINING MENU.

'KAY.
YASO-MURA-SAN YOU'RE AWE-SOME.
CAN YOU JUMP FOR 5 MORE MINUTES?
I'M SORRY.
YOU CAN'T DO THIS 10 TIMES WITHOUT BEING STRUCK ONCE?


I FEEL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US THE MOST. ESPECIALLY COMPARED TO SHOKO-CHAN WHO HAD PRAC-TICED KENDO.
WATCHING THE TWO GIRLS WITH SPORTS CLUB BACK-GROUNDS,
アッ
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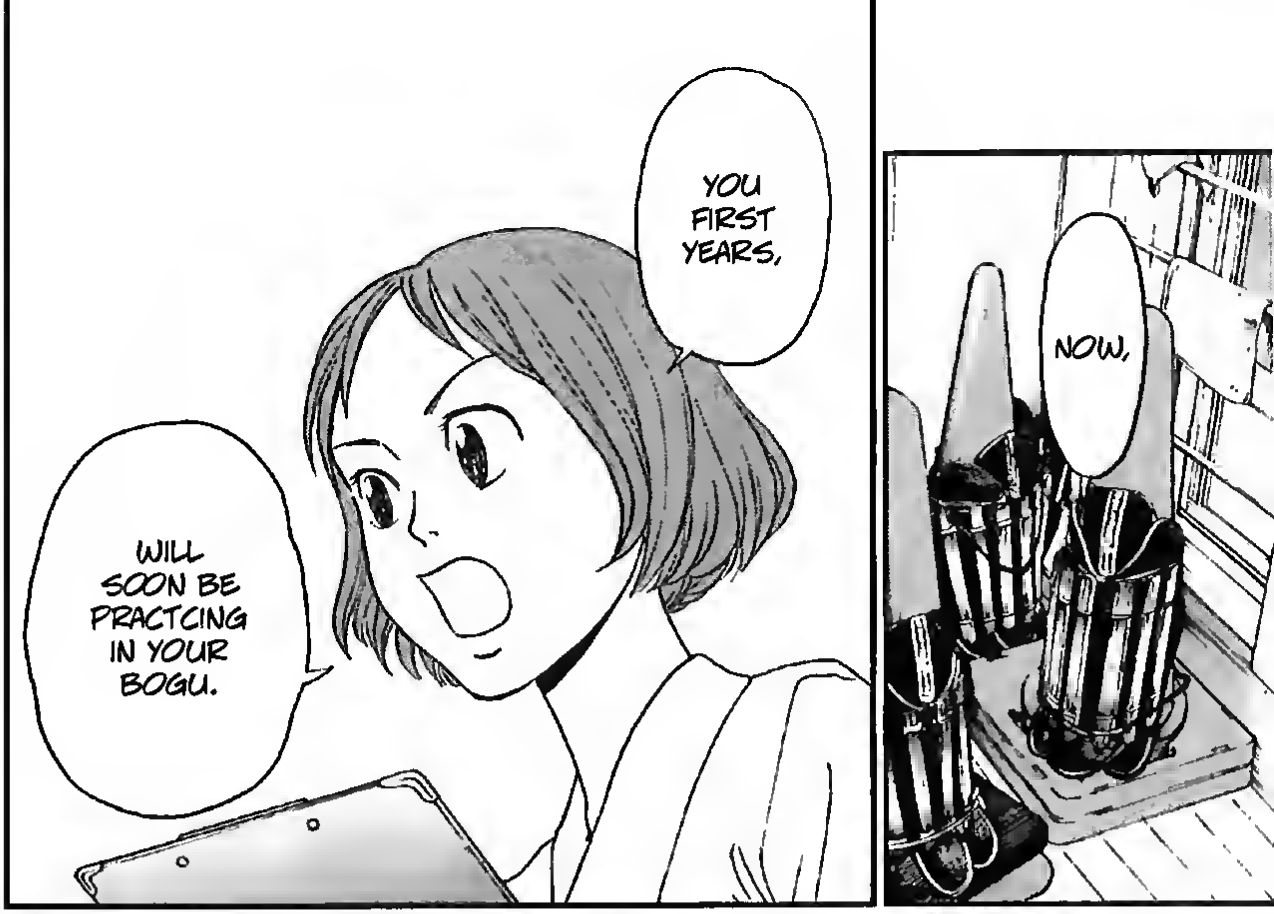
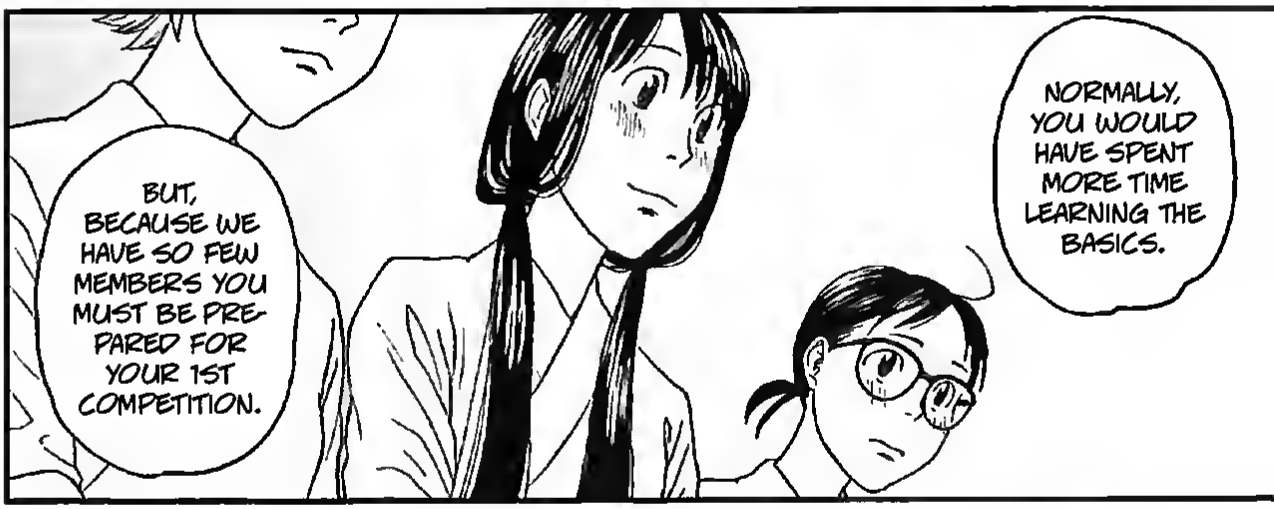
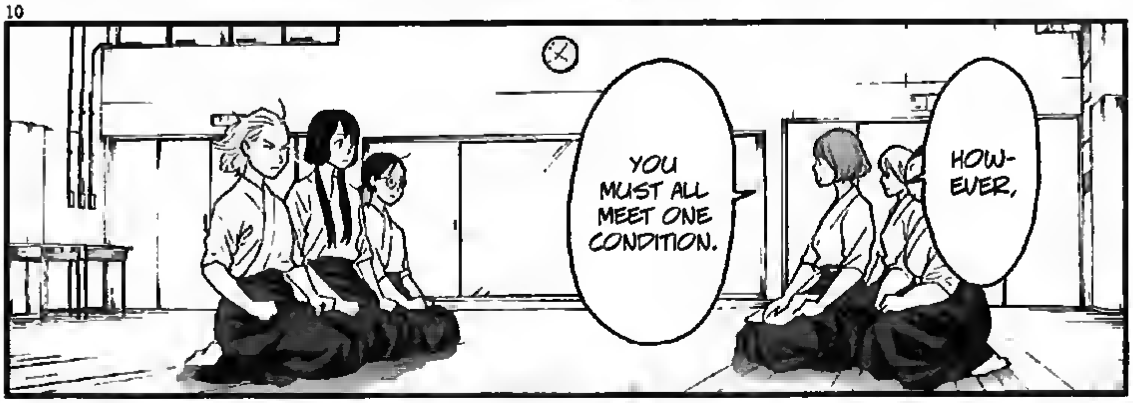
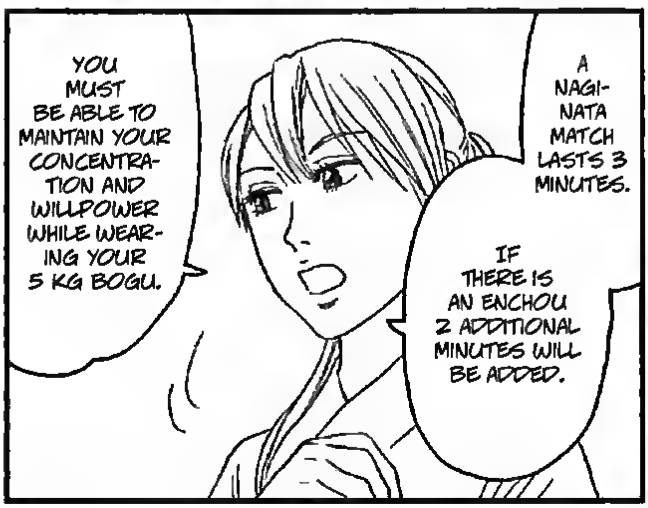

YOU FIRST YEARS,
WILL SOON BE PRACTCING IN YOUR BOGU.
NOW,


NORMALLY, YOU WOULD HAVE SPENT MORE TIME LEARNING THE BASICS.
BUT, BECAUSE WE HAVE SO FEW MEMBERS YOU MUST BE PREPARED FOR YOUR 1ST COMPETITION.

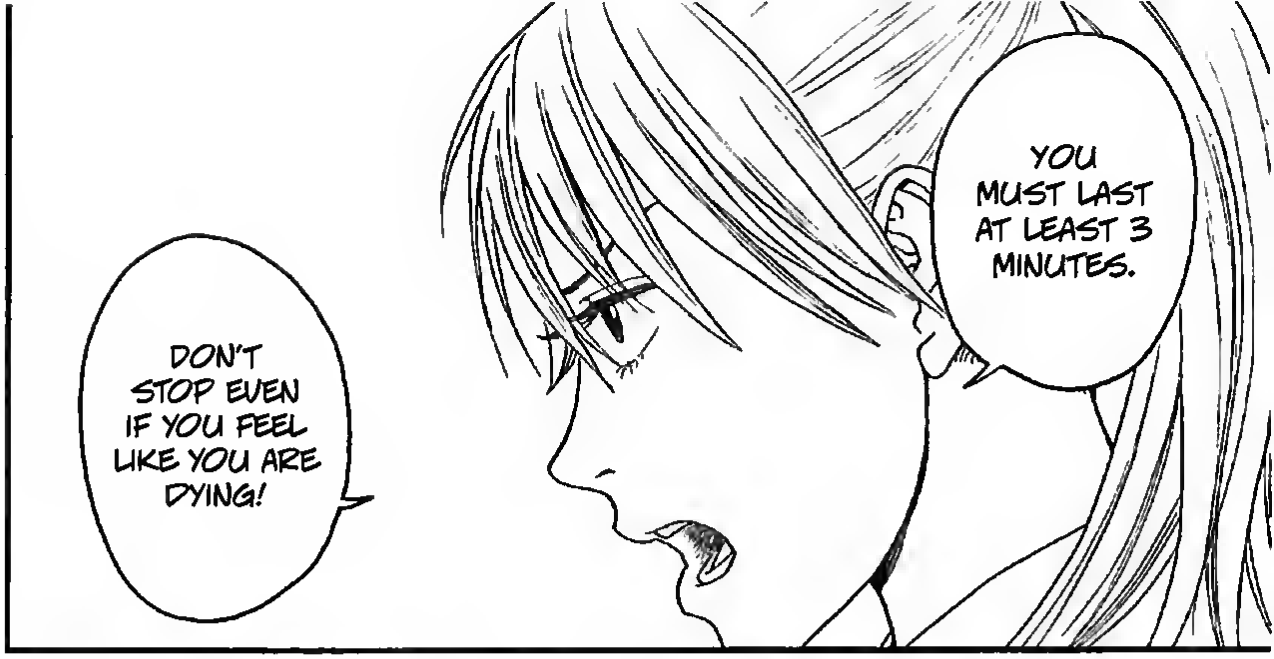
10


HOWEVER,
YOU MUST ALL MEET ONE CONDITION.

IF YOU CAN DO THAT WITHOUT FAIL, JUMPING WILL BECOME SECOND NATURE TO YOU.
ALL THREE OF YOU HAVE TO BE ABLE TO JUMP ROPE FOR THREE MINUTES.


YOU MUST BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN YOUR CONCENTRATION AND WILLPOWER WHILE WEARING YOUR 5 KG BOGU.
A NAGINATA MATCH LASTS 3 MINUTES.
IF THERE IS AN ENCHOU 2 ADDITIONAL MINUTES WILL BE ADDED.

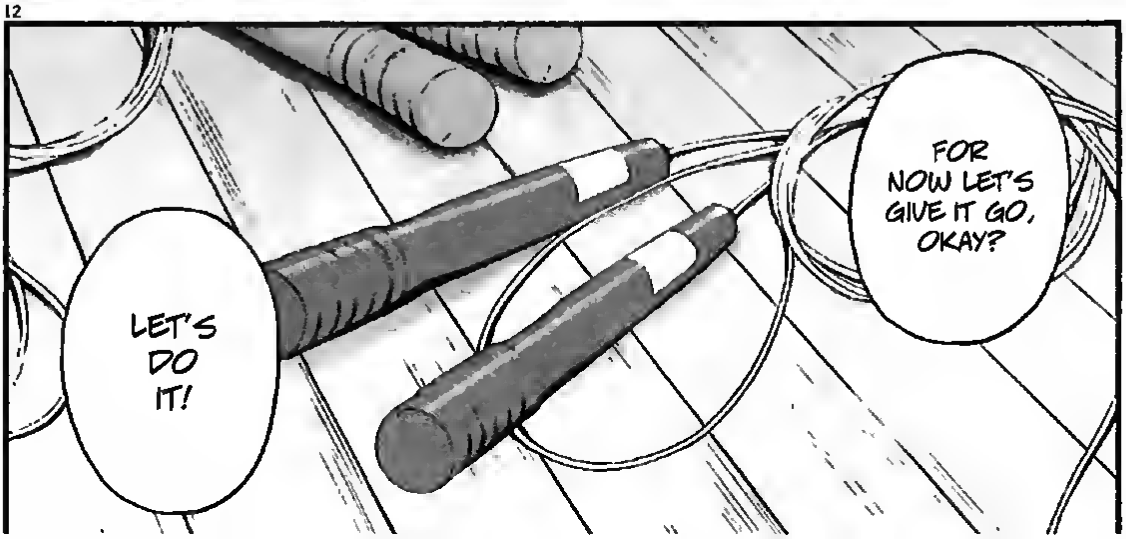
T/L - If a winner has not been determined by the end of a match period, an enchou (extension) of the match is allowed.
For those of us who are metric system challenged five kg = eleven lbs.

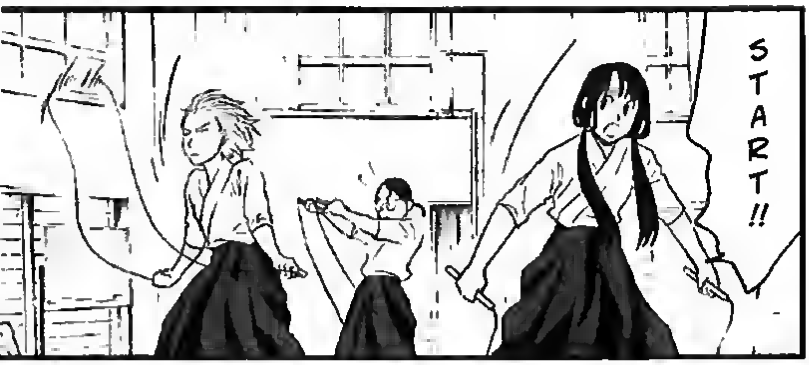

YOU MUST LAST AT LEAST 3 MINUTES.
DON'T STOP EVEN IF YOU FEEL LIKE YOU ARE DYING!

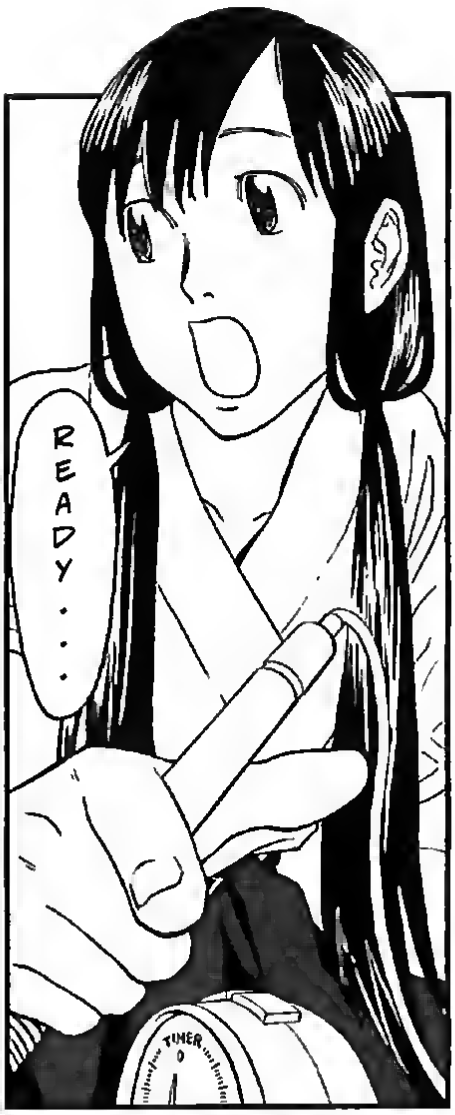
YOU GOT THAT!

THE TEST IS SATUR-DAY NEXT WEEK.
EACH PERSON MUST PREPARE THEIR BOGU IN ADVANCE.

YES!!
YES...


FOR NOW LET'S GIVE IT GO, OKAY?
LET'S DO IT!


START!!


READY...
TIMER

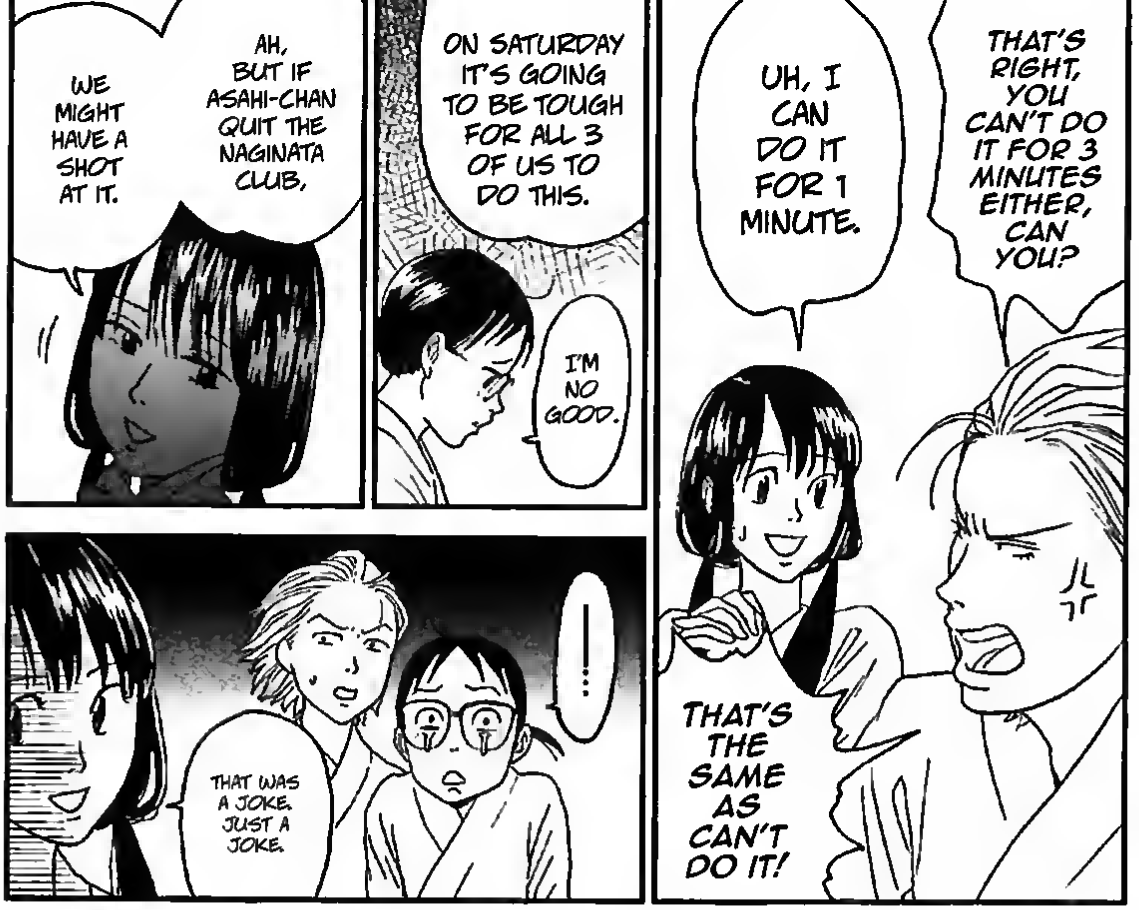
IT'S OKAY. IT'S OKAY.
WE ONLY JUST GOT STARTED AND YOU'VE ALREADY...?
LET'S DO IT ONE MORE TIME.
SORRY

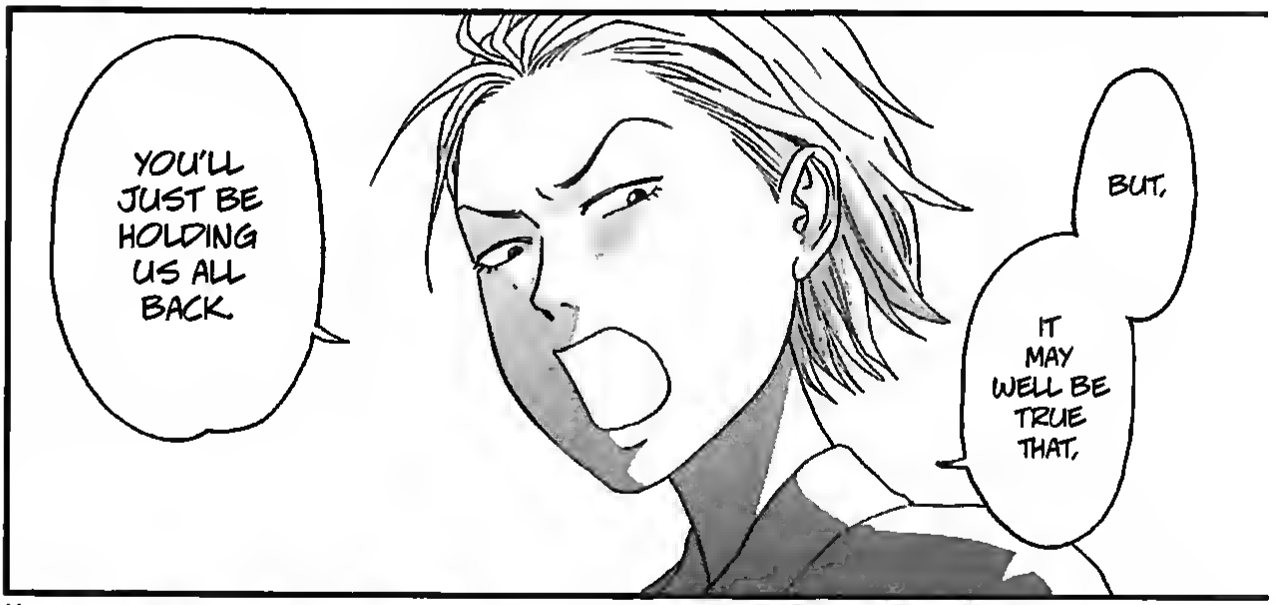
YEOW!
ヒリヒリ

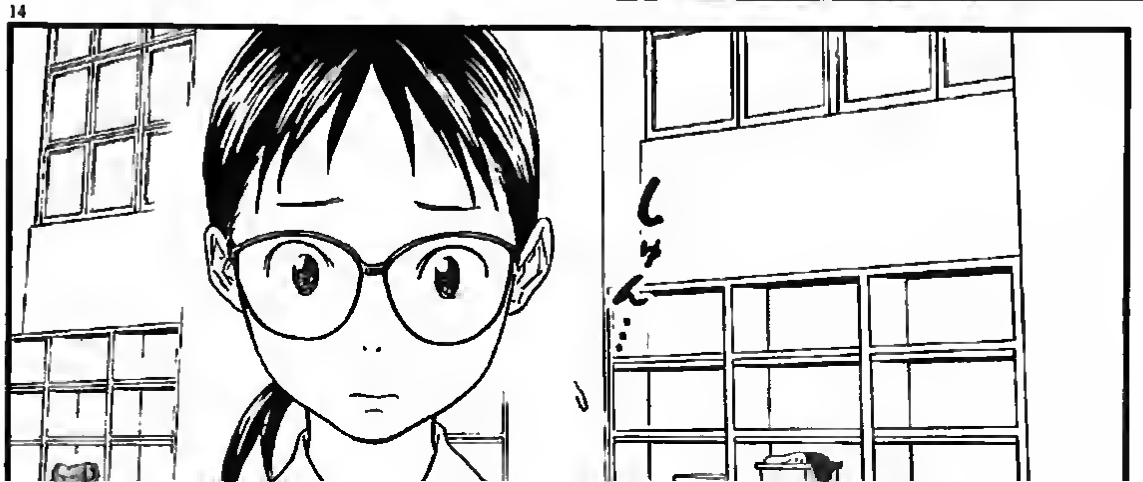
READY...

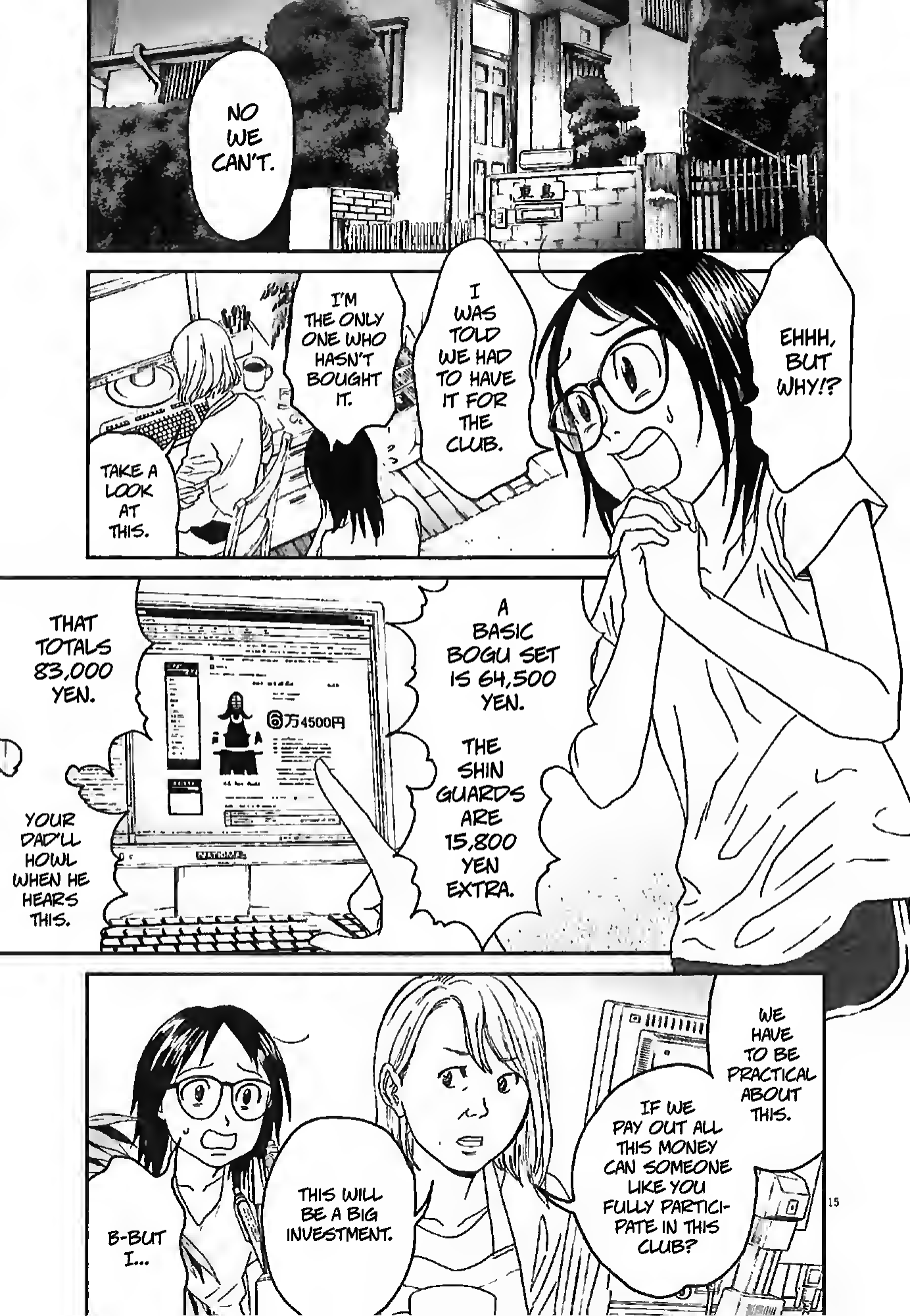
DAMMIT, ARE YOU EVEN SERIOUS ABOUT THIS!!
I'M REALLY, REALLY SORRY ABOUT THIS.
ASAHI-CHAN YOU'RE REALLY BAD AT JUMPING ROPE, AREN'T YOU?

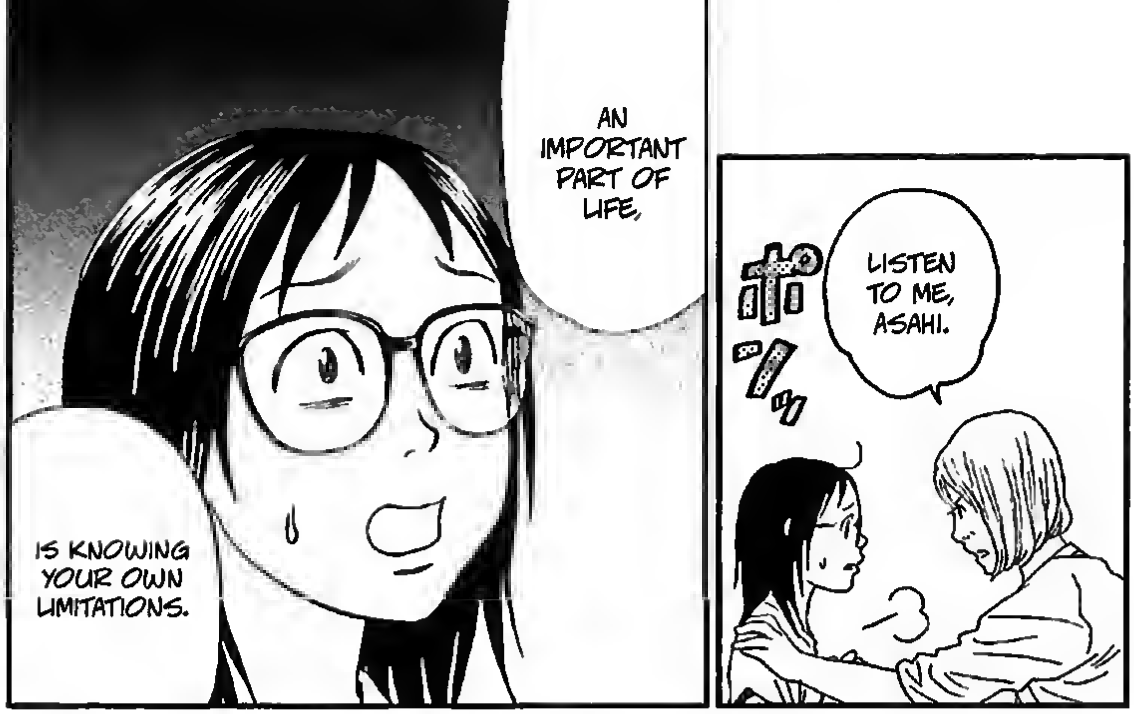
AH!
ヒリヒリ


WE MIGHT HAVE A SHOT AT IT.
AH, BUT IF ASAHI-CHAN QUIT THE NAGINATA CLUB,
ON SATURDAY IT'S GOING TO BE TOUGH FOR ALL 3 OF US TO DO THIS.
I'M NO GOOD.
UH, I CAN DO IT FOR 1 MINUTE.
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU CAN'T DO IT FOR 3 MINUTES EITHER, CAN YOU?
THAT'S THE SAME AS CAN'T DO IT!
...!
THAT WAS A JOKE. JUST A JOKE.


YOU'LL JUST BE HOLDING US ALL BACK.
BUT,
IT MAY WELL BE TRUE THAT,


しゃく...


NO WE CAN'T.
EHHH, BUT WHY!?
I WAS TOLD WE HAD TO HAVE IT FOR THE CLUB.
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO HASN'T BOUGHT IT.
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.
A BASIC BOGU SET IS 64,500 YEN.
THE SHIN GUARDS ARE 15,800 YEN EXTRA.
THAT TOTALS 83,000 YEN.
YOUR DAD'LL HOWL WHEN HE HEARS THIS.
WE HAVE TO BE PRACTICAL ABOUT THIS.
IF WE PAY OUT ALL THIS MONEY CAN SOMEONE LIKE YOU FULLY PARTICI-PATE IN THIS CLUB?
THIS WILL BE A BIG INVESTMENT.
B-BUT I...


AN IMPORTANT PART OF LIFE,
IS KNOWING YOUR OWN LIMITATIONS.
LISTEN TO ME, ASAHI.

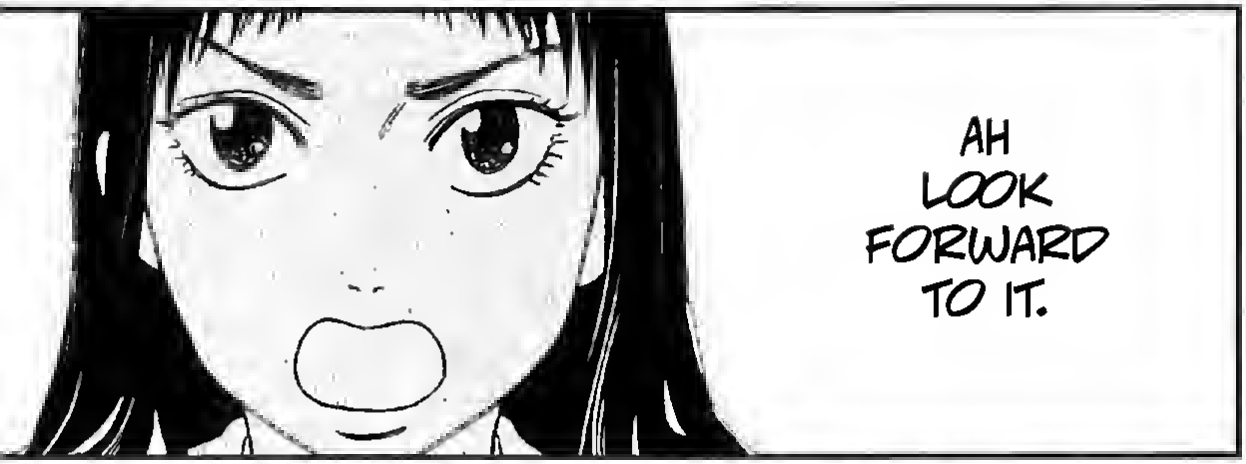
MOM IS SO MEAN.
!!!

16

I HAVE TO WONDER,
IF IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME.

BUT,
IF I'M REASON-ABLE.

THAT ICHIDO GIRL WAS REALLY GOOD, HUH?
CRAP...


AH LOOK FORWARD TO IT.

WHO WILL BEAT NENE ICHIDO.
NEXT YEAR I'LL BE THE ONE,

WHY IN THE WORLD DID I SAY THAT?
I,

ガ

AAGGHHH!
IF I'M NOT EVEN IN THE CLUB NEXT YEAR...
THIS IS SO LAME!!
I HAVE NO CHOICE,

BUT TO FIGHT THIS BATTLE MY OWN WAY!!

BAMBOO SWORD
SCANS
TRANSLATOR - DAGGIO
CLEANING, REDRAWING &
TYPESETTING - 1992MARIGOLD
QC - ALICE

AT TODAYS EXCHANGE RATES (AUG. 2017)
83,000 YEN = 576 POUNDS, 637 EUROS,
750 U.S. DOLLARS,946 AUSSIE DOLLARS,
47,748 RUPEES & 9,986,009 RUPIAH.